

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA  
MISSOULA DIVISION

CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL  
DIVERSITY, et al.,

Lead Case  
CV 24-86-M-DWM

WESTERN WATERSHEDS  
PROJECT, et al.,

Member Cases  
CV 24-87-M-DWM  
CV 24-97-M-DWM

Consolidated Plaintiffs,

ORDER

ANIMAL WELLNESS ACTION, et  
al.,

Consolidated Plaintiffs,

vs.

UNITED STATES FISH AND  
WILDLIFE SERVICE, et al.,

Defendants,

and

SPORTSMEN'S ALLIANCE  
FOUNDATION, SAFARI CLUB  
INTERNATIONAL, and ROCKY  
MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION,

Defendant-Intervenors.

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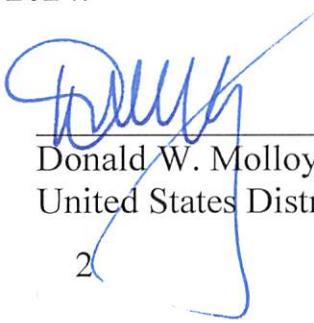
On July 2, 2024, Animal Wellness Action, The Center for a Humane Economy, Project Coyote, The Kettle Range Conservation Group, Footloose

Montana, and the Gallatin Wildlife Association brought another lawsuit against Defendants regarding their Finding that the Western gray wolf distinct population segment does not warrant listing as an endangered or threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (“ESA”). (See CV 24-97-M-DWM, Doc. 1.) There being common issues of fact and law, consolidation of the above-captioned cases is appropriate pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 42(a)(2). (See *id.*, Doc. 9.)

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that the above-captioned cases are consolidated for all further proceedings under the case number CV 24-86-M-DWM and captioned as shown above. The Clerk of Court shall file this Order in the docket for each case. The defendants in *Animal Wellness Action, et al.* shall file their answer in CV 24-97-M-DWM. All other documents shall be filed in the lead case, CV 24-86-M-DWM, and spread to the member cases.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the parties must file their proposed case management plan on or before July 22, 2024 consistent with this Court’s prior Orders. (See Docs. 6, 12.) In light of the similar claims raised in the three cases, the parties’ proposed case management plan should reflect that Plaintiffs and both sets of Consolidated Plaintiffs will be expected to file joint briefs.

DATED this 16 day of July, 2024.

  
Donald W. Molloy, District Judge  
United States District Court